

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1                   1.     A vehicle seat attachment latch assembly for securing and  
2 selectively releasing a member of a vehicle seat with respect to a member of a  
3 vehicle body, the vehicle seat attachment latch assembly comprising:  
4                    an attachment bracket that is attachable to one of said members;  
5                    a latch that is mounted on the attachment bracket for movement  
6 between: (a) a latched position where the latch captures a striker mounted on the  
7 other of said members to secure the vehicle seat with respect to the vehicle body;  
8 and (b) an unlatched position where the striker is released from the latch so the  
9 vehicle seat can be moved with respect to the vehicle body;  
10                  a latching wedge mounted on the latch for movement therewith and  
11 for translational movement with respect thereto, and the latching wedge having a  
12 wedge surface for contacting the striker when the latch is in its latching position;  
13 and  
14                  a resilient bias that biases the wedge surface of the latching wedge  
15 into wedging contact with the striker with the latch in its latching position to provide  
16 a rattle free attachment of the seat to the vehicle body.

1                   2.     A vehicle seat attachment latch assembly as in claim 1 wherein  
2 the latch has a pivotal connection for mounting thereof on the attachment bracket for  
3 pivotal movement between its latched and unlatched positions.

1                   3.     A vehicle seat attachment latch assembly as in claim 2 wherein  
2 the resilient bias comprises a spring that extends around the pivotal connection of  
3 the latch and has a first arm that extends to the latch and also has a second arm that  
4 extends to the latching wedge to provide the biasing of the wedge surface of the  
5 latching wedge into the wedging contact with the striker.

1                   4.     A vehicle seat attachment latch assembly as in claim 2 wherein  
2 the latch and the latching wedge include a pin and slot connection and a projection  
3 that cooperate to mount the latching wedge on the latch for translational movement  
4 with respect to the latch.

1                   5.       A vehicle seat attachment latch assembly as in claim 2 wherein  
2 the resilient bias comprises a spring that extends around the pivotal connection of  
3 the latch member and has a first arm that extends to the latch and also has a second  
4 arm that extends to the latching wedge to provide the biasing of the wedge surface  
5 of the latching wedge into the wedging contact with the striker, and wherein the  
6 latch and the latching wedge include a pin and slot connection and a projection that  
7 cooperate to mount the latching wedge on the latch for the translational movement  
8 with respect to the latch.

1                   6.       A vehicle seat attachment latch assembly as in claim 2 further  
2 including a locking pawl mounted on the attachment bracket for movement between  
3 a locking position for holding the latch in its latched position and a released  
4 position for releasing the latch for movement from its latched position to its  
5 unlatched position, and a spring that biases the locking pawl toward its locking  
6 position.

1                   7.       A vehicle seat attachment latch assembly as in claim 6 further  
2 including another pivotal connection that mounts the locking pawl on the attachment  
3 bracket for pivotal movement between its locking and released positions, and  
4 wherein the spring extends between the locking pawl and latch and also biases the  
5 latch toward its unlatched position.

1                   8.       A vehicle seat attachment latch assembly as in claim 1 further  
2 including another attachment bracket that is attachable to said one member to  
3 cooperate with the first mentioned attachment bracket to provide an attachment  
4 bracket assembly, each of the attachment brackets having a flange spaced from the  
5 flange of the other bracket, and the latch and latching wedge being mounted between  
6 the spaced flanges of the attachment brackets.

1                   9.       A vehicle seat attachment latch assembly for securing and  
2 selectively releasing a vehicle seat with respect to a vehicle body, the vehicle seat  
3 attachment latch assembly comprising:

an attachment bracket assembly including a pair of attachment brackets that are attachable to the vehicle seat, and each attachment bracket having a flange spaced from the flange of the other attachment bracket;

a latch;

a pivotal connection that is pivotally mounts the latch on the attachment bracket assembly between the flanges of the pair of attachment brackets for pivotal movement between: (a) a latched position where the latch captures a striker mounted on the vehicle body to secure the vehicle seat with respect to the vehicle body; and (b) an unlatched position where the striker is released from the latch so the vehicle seat can be moved with respect to the vehicle body;

a latching wedge mounted on the latch for movement therewith and for translational movement with respect thereto, and the latching wedge having a wedge surface for contacting the striker when the latch is in its latching position;

a first spring that extends around the pivotal connection of the latch and has a first arm that extends to the latch and also has a second arm that extends to the latching wedge to provide biasing of the wedge surface of the latching wedge into wedging contact with the striker with the latch in its latched position to provide a rattle free attachment of the seat to the vehicle body;

a locking pawl pivotally mounted on the attachment bracket assembly between the flanges of the pair of attachment brackets for movement between a locking position for holding the latch in its latching position and a released position for releasing the latch for movement from its latched position to its unlatched position; and

a second spring that biases the locking pawl toward its locking position.

10. A vehicle seat attachment latch assembly for securing and selectively releasing a vehicle seat with respect to a vehicle body, the vehicle seat attachment latch assembly comprising:

an attachment bracket assembly including a pair of attachment brackets that are attachable to the vehicle seat, and each attachment bracket having a flange spaced from the flange of the other attachment bracket;

a latch;

8                   a pivotal connection that is pivotally mounts the latch on the  
9 attachment bracket assembly between the flanges of the pair of attachment brackets  
10 for pivotal movement between: (a) a latched position where the latch captures a  
11 striker mounted on the vehicle body to secure the vehicle seat with respect to the  
12 vehicle body; and (b) an unlatched position where the striker is released from the  
13 latch so the vehicle seat can be moved with respect to the vehicle body;

14                   a latching wedge having a wedging surface;

15                   a pin and slot connection and a projection that cooperate to mount the  
16 latching wedge on the latch for translational movement with respect to the latch;

17                   a first spring that extends around the pivotal connection of the latch  
18 and has a first arm that extends to the latch and also has a second arm that extends  
19 to the latching wedge to provide biasing of the wedge surface of the latching wedge  
20 into wedging contact with the striker to provide a rattle free attachment of the seat  
21 to the vehicle body;

22                   a locking pawl pivotally mounted on the attachment bracket assembly  
23 between the flanges of the pair of attachment brackets for movement between a  
24 locking position for holding the latch in its latching position and a released position  
25 for releasing the latch for movement from its latched position to its unlatched  
26 position; and

27                   a second spring that extends between the locking pawl and the latch  
28 to bias the locking pawl toward its locking position and to also bias the latch toward  
29 its unlatched position.